

Library

BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

On the Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the Borough
for the Year ended 31st December, 1957

BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

On the Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the Borough
for the Year ended 31st December, 1957

BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL

Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee.

January to April, 1957

The Mayor (Coun. T. Marine)

Chairman Ald. F. Windebank

Deputy Chairman Coun. Mrs.
Flewker

Aldermen—G. Davison

F. Jacques

Wm. C. Pounder

Councillors—O. F. Bradshaw

J. McKenna

Mrs. M. E. Smith

Mrs. D. Charlton

C. Chambers

J. Jones

May to December, 1957.

The Mayor (Wm. R. Emerson)

Chairman Ald. F. Windebank

Deputy Chairman Coun. Mrs.
Flewker

Aldermen—F. Jacques

W. C. Pounder

Councillors—T. Boagey

C. Chambers

Mrs. D. Charlton

N. Copeman

J. McKenna

A. J. Miller

Mrs. M. E. Smith

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Part-time Temporary Medical Officer of Health :

M. J. NOLAN, L.C.R.P. & S.I.

Public Health Inspectors, Meat and Food Inspector :

G. A. WARD, M.A.P.H.I.

Certificate of R.S.I. and Public Health Inspectors Joint Board.

Certificate of R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

J. F. BURN,

Certificate of R.S.I. and Public Health Inspectors Joint Board.

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

M. TURNER (from 9th September, 1957).

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss A. BENDELOW, S.R.N., H.V., Cert. S.C.M.

Miss M. BUCHANAN, S.R.N., H.V., Cert. S.C.M.

Miss S. HOOD, S.R.N.

Clerks :

Miss J. A. PALLISTER

Mrs. M. SANDERSON

Mr. N. POUNDER

*Health Department,
Frederic Street,
Hartlepool.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the following report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1957.

A valuable addition to our Health Service was started during the year when 508 children born between the years 1947 and 1956 were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis. At present the supply of vaccine is limited but there is no doubt that when greater supplies become available the age limits will be considerably extended.

There has been an increase in the Birth Rate which is now the highest for 5 years.

The Death Rate has increased this year, mainly due to an increased number of Deaths from Carcinoma while deaths from all other causes has decreased. Deaths from Tuberculosis still continue to fall, only 2 deaths occurred this year. For the seventh consecutive year no cases of Diphtheria have been reported.

I wish again to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee and interest in the work of my Department during the year. My grateful thanks are also due to the Officers and Staff of the Health Department for their loyal support and co-operation.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

M. J. NOLAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

**BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES and
ANALYSIS of MORTALITY RATES for the Year, 1957.**

	<i>England & Wales</i>				<i>Hartlepool</i>
	<i>Rates per 1,000 population</i>				
Births—					
Live Births	16.1	19.8*
Still Births	0.22	0.45
Deaths—					
All Causes	11.5	16.27*
Typhoid & Paratyphoid			..	0.06	Nil
Whooping Cough		0.008	0.06
Diphtheria	0.00	Nil
Tuberculosis	0.17	0.12
Influenza	1.12	0.23
Pneumonia	0.62	0.70
Smallpox	0.00	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polio-encephalitis)		0.006	Nil

*Corrected Birth Rate and Death Rate.

Deaths—			
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
All causes under 1 year of age	23.0		43.0
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	.. ..	0.002	Nil

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA

Area (Acres)	1,841
Population (Census 1951)	17,217
Population (estimated mid 1957)	17,060
Rateable Value	£154,423
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£561
Total Number of Dwelling houses at 31.12.57	4,927
Number of new houses completed in 1957	118

POPULATION.

The estimated population mid-1957 as supplied by the Registrar-General was 17,060.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Registrar General's Estimated Population</i>
1947	16,020
1948	16,660
1949	16,900
1950	16,940
1951	16,990
Population by 1951 Census	17,217
1952	17,080
1953	16,940
1954	16,940
1955	16,900
1956	16,960
1957	17,060

The distribution of the population throughout the wards during the year is indicated by the following figures based on the number of electors in each ward :—

St. Hilda—2,890	Station—2,366	Throston—2,470
Central—2,697	Brus—2,701	Hart—3,936

HOUSING STATISTICS.

No. of applicants on Waiting List as at 31st December, 1957	885
No. of houses completed and let 1st Jan. to 31st Dec., 1957	118
No. of other houses becoming available for letting during same period	43
No. of families rehoused as special cases on medical grounds	12
No. of families rehoused on account of Tuberculosis ..	2

The figure of 885 applicants for Council houses must be analysed in order to assess the position wherein there are this number of applicants in a town with 4,927 houses, 1,719 of which have been built since the end of the war and active slum clearance rehousing.

The applicants can be divided up thus :—

“Doubled-up” families living with relatives	212
Families having own tenancies but living in overcrowded conditions as assessed by the Council’s point scheme	215
From families having own tenancies but no overcrowding	458
	885
	885

Though 50% of the applicants have no real need for rehousing from a health point of view, they quite naturally would like a new house with its corresponding amenities. These applicants however, should only be considered when all other applicants, whose applications are based on bad sanitary and health conditions, have been disposed of in order of merit.

The figures for families ‘living-in’ shows a slight decrease when compared with those given in my report for 1956. The question of ‘living-in’ with its accompanying moral dangers is a very serious one and should be carefully watched. Every effort should be made to reduce the number of these applicants as speedily as possible.

BIRTHS.

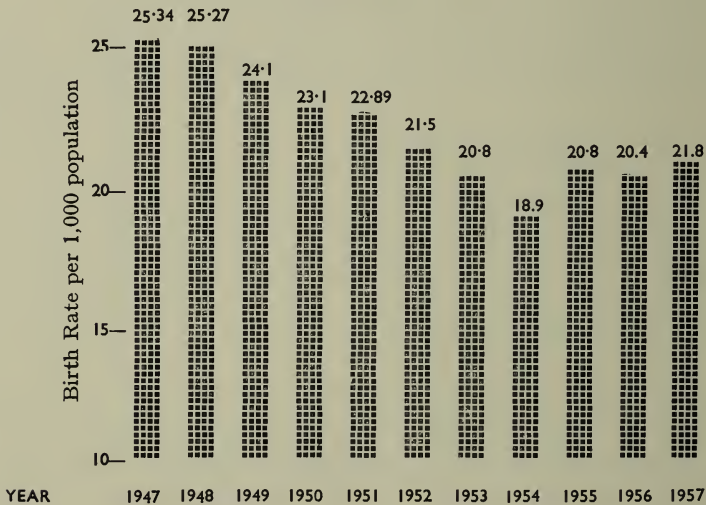
There were 372 live births in the Borough in 1957 as compared with 347 in 1956. The crude birth rate for 1957 was 21.8. A glance at the diagram below shows a slight increase in the birth rate on last year's figures.

The adjusted Birth Rate is 19.65 the comparability factor being .91.

The total births were made up as follows :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	191	175	366
Illegitimate	5	1	6
Still Births—Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Borough of Hartlepool—Crude Birth Rate 1947-1957. Average 22.26



DEATHS.

There were 201 deaths which in a population of 17,060 makes a crude death rate of 11.8. The crude death rate for 1956 was 10.6 The adjusted death rate is 16.27 and the comparability factor 1.38.

Borough of Hartlepool.—Table to show causes of death during 1957 together with percentages of the total for the 3 main causes and for Tuberculosis.
(Figures for 1956 are given for comparison).

CAUSES OF DEATH	1956			1957		
	M	F	% of total of main causes of death	M	F	% of total of main causes of death
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	2	1.6%	1	1	0.9%
Tuberculosis, other	—	—		—	—	
Syphilitic disease	—	2		—	—	
Diphtheria	—	—		—	—	
Whooping Cough	—	—		1	—	
Meningococcal infections	—	1		—	—	
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—		—	—	
Measles	—	—		—	—	
Other infective and parasitic disease	—	—		—	—	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	7	1		7	1	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	1		7	—	
Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	—		—	1	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	2	13.9%	—	1	25.39%
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	3		21	13	
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—		—	—	
Diabetes	—	1		—	—	
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	10		7	10	
Coronary disease, angina	17	11		22	4	
Hypertension with heart disease ..	5	3	54.1%	6	6	40.30%
Other heart disease	6	15		6	11	
Other circulatory disease	6	5		1	8	
Influenza	—	—		3	1	
Pneumonia	6	6	12.8%	5	7	11.94%
Bronchitis	10	1		6	2	
Other diseases of resp. system ..	2	2		—	—	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	2	—		1	2	
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea ..	—	—		—	1	
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—		—	—	
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—		3	—	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—		—	—	
Congenital malformations	2	3		—	—	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	4		10	15	
Motor vehicles accidents	—	—		3	1	
All other accidents	1	2		4	1	4.47%
Suicide	1	—		1	—	
Homicide and operations of war ..	1	—		—	—	

GENERAL PROVISIONS of HEALTH SERVICES for HARTLEPOOL.

Hospitals (under the control of the Hartlepoons Hospital Management Committee).

Infectious Diseases. These are admitted to Brierton Hospital which still maintains a number of beds for the common infectious diseases.

Tuberculosis. Brierton Hospital is now the main Hospital for cases of tuberculosis. Cases for whose treatment facilities are not available there, are admitted to hospitals outside the area.

General Hospitals. In March this year certain changes were made regarding the admission of patients to the General Hospitals in this area, so that now the Cameron Hospital deals only with Obstetric and Gynaecological cases.

Hartlepoons Hospital admits Accidents, Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat Cases and Children.

The General Hospital deals with Medical and Surgical cases and the following clinics are also held there :—Ophthalmic, Skin diseases and Psychiatric.

General Medical Practitioners.

The Executive Council for the County of Durham is the body responsible for the administration of the National Health Service insofar as the General Practitioner Service in Hartlepool is concerned.

Midwives. The Domiciliary Midwifery Service is a County Council Service. The Midwives serving Hartlepool are: Nurse E. E. Lee, 13, West View Road, Hartlepool: Nurse E. Foster, 75, Marine Drive, Hartlepool: Nurse Ashton, The Bungalow, Grove Street, Hartlepool.

Home Nursing Service. Home Nursing is the responsibility of Durham County Council. There are two nurses: Nurse Carter, 7, Clifford Close, Hartlepool: Nurse Hart, 7, North Drive, West Hartlepool.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Infant Welfare Clinic. Durham County Council Infant Welfare Clinics are held as under :—

Frederic Street Clinic—every Tuesday, 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.

West View Clinic—every Thursday, 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.

Sunlight Clinic—every Tuesday morning at Frederic Street
Clinic

Ante-Natal Clinics. These Clinics are attended by certain of the general practitioners of the town who see only their own patients. The clinics are held at Frederic Street and Miers Avenue.

School Minor Ailment Clinic. This clinic is held at Frederic Street as follows :—

Monday morning—9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.

Wednesday morning—9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.

Friday morning—treatment only—no doctor in attendance.

Ophthalmic School Clinic. This clinic is held at Frederic Street.

School Dental Clinic. Held on Monday morning and afternoon and Thursday morning at Frederic Street.

Chest Clinic. The chest clinic is held at Brierton Hospital, West Hartlepool for Hartlepool patients by appointment.

Venereal Diseases Clinic. This Clinic is held at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool, as follows :—

Males—Thursdays at 5 p.m.

Females—Mondays at 2 p.m.

Ambulance Service. The Ambulance Service in Hartlepool is a Durham County Council Service. One ambulance is stationed in Hartlepool and is controlled from the West Hartlepool Ambulance Station.

The control is continually manned and receives calls for ambulance transport and transmits necessary instructions. Where necessary the County Ambulance is supplemented by the ambulances of West Hartlepool.

The ambulance stationed in Hartlepool covers also parts of the Stockton Rural area.

Usage of Ambulance Service—Hartlepool, 1957.

	Journeys under- taken	Cases carried			Mileage Travelled
		Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
(a) By County vehicle stationed in Hartlepool	2513 (2748)	5955 (4923)	1709 (1659)	7664 (6582)	32220 (30453)

Figures in brackets are for the year 1956.

NOTE :—In addition to the above, the services of the neighbouring County Depots are also utilised particularly on occasions when economy can be affected by co-ordinating journeys.

Figures of interest as applying on the 31st December, 1957.

Hartlepool children in the care of Durham County Council :

In Children's Homes and Nursery	31
In approved schools	—

Hartlepool persons maintained by Durham County Council :

In residential hostels :

Males	11
Females	5
Hartlepool persons on the Register	16
Hartlepool persons who are registered Mental Defectives under supervision in their own homes	58
In hospitals for Mentally Defectives	—
Hartlepool persons on Tuberculosis Register	141

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	1956		1957	
	Total cases notified	Number of Deaths	Total cases notified	Number of Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1	—	2	—
Measles	19	—	548	—
Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)	—	—	3	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	—	2	—
Whooping Cough	44	—	248	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	4	—	6	—
do. (Non-Paralytic)	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	2	—	—	—

[illegible]

Notifiable Diseases.

The notifiable diseases which are required to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health of all districts under the provisions of the Public Health Acts are Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membraneous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlet Fever, Typhus and Enteric or Relapsing Fever.

Apart from these notifiable diseases there are others which include Plague, Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Encephalitis Lethargica, Malaria, Dysentery, Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, Puerperal Pyrexia, Measles and Whooping Cough.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Medical Practitioners are required to notify cases of food poisoning.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of diphtheria in the Borough during 1957. This is the seventh consecutive year.

Immunisation of the child population in Hartlepool is carried out by the local practitioners as well as the School Medical Officer. Sessions for this purpose are held by the School Medical Officer at Frederic Street Health Centre for schoolchildren. Pre-school children are immunised at the Baby Welfare Clinics at Frederic Street and West View Clinics.

Diphtheria Immunisations carried out during the year, 1957.

	<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>5-14 years</i>	<i>Booster</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of children immunised . .	193	3	61	257

Scarlet Fever.

There were two cases notified as Scarlet Fever during the year as compared with 1 in 1956. There were no deaths.

Tuberculosis.

During the year there were 10 new cases notified and there were 2 deaths from this disease as compared with 10 new cases and 3 deaths in 1956.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases reported during the year ending 31st December, 1957 as compared with 5 cases in 1956—4 paralytic and 1 non-paralytic.

Measles.

The number of cases showed a large increase owing to an epidemic in the town.

The table below shows the large increase in cases as compared with those notified in 1956, and is comparable with those noted in 1948.

Notified Cases of Measles—Hartlepool.

Year	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
No. of cases notified	426	42	380	234	261	71	392	43	19	540

Whooping Cough.

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
No. cases notified	7	36	160	13	132	94	44	248

It will be noted that the above table shows a big jump in the number of cases of whooping cough notified.

Mass Radiography — Chest X-Ray.

597 persons attended which is rather poor, but as we have said before, St. Hilda's Hall is not the best site for the Unit. The majority of these examinees were made up of schoolchildren amounting to 242, so that you will see very few adults attended.

Only 12 people were referred by General Medical Practitioners, although the doctors in the Hartlepool area had been circularised and supplied with leaflets which they could hand to any patient they referred for X-ray. 5 people were referred to the Chest Clinic; 3 males and 2 females, one of these being a schoolboy, and he was found to have bronchiectasis. 2 of the persons referred to the Clinic were found to be satisfactory; one did not attend and one a girl of 18 was found to have tuberculosis requiring occasional supervision.

B.C.G.

Vaccination by B.C.G. of contacts to cases is carried out at the Brierton Hospital, West Hartlepool.

INFANT WELFARE SERVICES.

The basis of the child welfare service is the work undertaken by Health Visitors. It should be emphasised that the Health Visitor is highly qualified and that besides being a trained nurse she is invariably a fully-qualified midwife and has undergone extensive training for her Health Visitor's Certificate.

The main function of the Health Visitor is the supervision of the health of the child up to the age of 5 years. She also undertakes duties in connection with mental defectives, Tuberculosis patients, old people discharged from hospital and other duties connected with the School Health Service. It must always be pointed out that the Health Visitors are willing to help the local practitioner whenever they can.

Work done by the Health Visitors during the year, 1957.

DOMICILIARY.

The total number of effective visits paid :—

1.	Maternity and Child Welfare	..	..	3,886
2.	Tuberculosis	..	..	417
3.	General Health	..	..	2
4.	Mental deficiency	..	..	136
5.	School	..	..	138
6.	Aged people	..	..	13

Summary—

Ineffective visits	.. .. .	337
Total number of visits	.. .. .	4,883
Number of effective visits	.. .. .	4,546
Time (as days) spent on visits (routine, and other ineffectives)	.. .. .	215
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	.. .. .	21

CLINICS, ETC., WORK.

Time (as days) spent :—

(a) at maternity and child welfare centres	..	115
(b) at chest clinics	.. .. .	47
(c) at medical inspections	.. .. .	4
(d) at special schools	.. .. .	10

Infant Welfare Centres.

The total number attending the two Centres continues to show a downward trend.

Child Welfare Centres — Attendances, 1957.

Centre	Children		Children attending for first time	
	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.
Frederic Street	1301 (1224)	90 (131)	120 (114)	10 (9)
West View	1096 (1232)	93 (122)	137 (130)	13 (2)
Totals	2397 (2456)	183 (253)	257 (244)	23 (11)

Figures for 1956 are given in brackets.

Ante Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at both Frederic Street and West View Clinics. During the year only two practices in the town availed themselves of the facilities offered whereby the clinics may be used by the general practitioners for the purpose of holding an ante-natal clinic with the midwives in attendance. The table of attendance shows a decrease in attendance figures over the previous year.

Ante-Natal Clinics—

Attendance 1957 with figures for 1956 in brackets.

<i>Centre</i>	<i>No. of Attendances</i>	<i>Average per Session</i>
Frederic St.	142 (158)	6 (7)
West View	35 (24)	3 (3)
Total	177 (183)	9 (10)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Causes of Infant Deaths in relation to age.

[illegible]

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age for the year was 16. The Infantile Mortality Rate was thus 43.

Appendix II shows how the Infantile Mortality Rate for Hartlepool has altered since 1941. The England and Wales figures have been plotted for comparison.

The causes of death in the 16 cases are given in tabular form above.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

During the year the 3 County Midwives working the Borough delivered and nursed 204 cases and attended 22 patients discharged home from hospital before the 14th day making a total of 226 cases. Figures for the previous three years are set out below :—

Births attended by the County Midwives 1955, '56 and '57

	1955	1956	1957
Total births (live and still) ..	361	359	380
Cases attended as midwife and nurse	172	194	240
Hospital patients discharged home before 14th day	—	53	22
Total cases attended	172	247	262

Home Nursing.

There are two nurses working in the town. The figures given in the table below show the number of visits and new cases, Medical and Surgical over the past three years. Whilst these figures show an occasional increase and decrease there is no escaping the fact that these nurses are doing a real job of work especially when dealing with cases of a chronic nature. Hospitals and particularly the general practitioner will no doubt readily appreciate this service.

Visits by District Nurses, 1955, 1956 and 1957.

	1955		1956		1957	
	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
General—						
Medical	277	5,932	305	5,666	267	5,535
Surgical	47	1,136	35	820	27	485
Tuberculosis	15	470	15	582	9	282
Maternal	—					
Complicat'ns	—		1	5	—	—
Totals ..	339	7,538	356	7,073	303	6,302

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths under the heading Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion. This is the third year that no deaths under this heading were reported.

Domestic Help Service.

This service is continuing its good work. It has been reported however that families and neighbours are so helpful that the demand in Hartlepool on this service is not so great.

Domestic Help Cases during 1957.

No. of cases being assisted on 1st January, 1957 ..	55
No. of new cases	17
	—
	72
	==
Cases being assisted on 31st December, 1957 ..	60
Categories :—	
Old Age Pensioners ..	65
Maternity Cases	3
Tuberculosis	3
Others	1
	—
	72
	==

No. of Home Helps employed — 21.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR for the Year 1957.

*Health Department,
Frederic Street,
Hartlepool.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The main emphasis of effort in the department still remains on housing and, though confirmation was received during the year to two areas, it did appear that owing to the increased loan charges work on areas in hand at the year end would have to be suspended. It must be appreciated when the intensity and degree of slum clearance in such a small town as this is taken into account, that it can only be achieved at the expense of other fields of environmental hygiene and that other duties, constantly being added to, cannot under the circumstances be carried out systematically.

The year was again marked by staff changes, which naturally has a detrimental affect on continuity of work, and in view of the problems facing the Council it would appear to be well worth while to ensure adequate and continuity of staff. This is now of particular importance that the housing subsidy is directly linked to slum clearance.

Legislation during the year once again added new duties to your inspectors this time in the shape of the Rent Act. It is not surprising that it had by the year end, created a lot of work bearing in mind the condition of houses. Whilst it is too early to forecast with any accuracy its ultimate affect on housing standards, its objects are likely to be nullified, from the repair and tenants point of view, by the involved and, to a lot of tenants, incomprehensible procedures laid down and the multiplicity of forms.

More detailed comment and statistical information is available in the body of the report.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to colleagues and staff for helpful co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. WARD,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

As I first noted two years ago the reduction in the amount of time spent on general nuisance work, owing to the impact of slum clearance, has been maintained and the time thus gained has been readily absorbed into other aspects of work which had to be neglected in the past.

A total of 850 houses were inspected during the year and 1,357 re-inspections were made in respect of properties under notice. 162 informal notices were served in respect of 169 houses with regard to nuisances existing thereon and 112 notices affecting 118 houses were complied with. On the authority of the Committee 43 Statutory Notices were served in the year with respect to 44 houses and 33 such notices were complied with in respect of 34 houses. 2 houses were repaired on verbal instructions.

It is to be noted that 7 Statutory Notices not fully complied with were abated on default of the owner to 7 houses and the necessary action taken to recover the expenses incurred which amounted to a total of £65 6s. 0d. Total payments for repairs on default recovered during the year were £96 15s. 11d.

To summarise, a total of 205 notices were served in respect of 213 houses and 152 such notices were complied with to 159 houses.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Dwellinghouses.	<i>Inspection</i>	<i>Re-inspection</i>	<i>Total</i>
Notifiable diseases	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Food poisoning	5	—	5
Verminous Premises	2	—	2
Dirty Premises	4	4	8
Overcrowded condition	4	—	4
Houses let in lodgings	—	—	—
Housing and Public Health Acts	850	704	1554
Water Supply	12	—	12
Animals, etc., kept	23	—	23
Supervision of removals	256	—	256
Rat-infested premises	148	708	856

Other Premises.

Tents, Vans, Sheds	4	—	4
Stables	2	—	2
Offensive Trades	8	2	10
Marine Stores	2	—	2
Accumulation of rubbish	1	2	3
Factories with mechanical power	50	14	64
Factories with no mechanical power	9	1	10
Workplaces	—	—	—

Other Premises	<i>Inspection</i>	<i>Re-inspections</i>	Total
Places of Public Entertainment	3	2	5
Sale of Rag Flock	—	—	—
Pet Animals Act	2	—	2
Schools	10	—	10
Atmospheric Pollution.. ..	82	—	82

Food Premises.

Licensed Premises	45	13	58
Meat Shops	16	6	22
Provision Shops	50	7	57
Fish Shops	9	5	14
Milk Shops and Dairies	3	—	3
Restaurant Kitchens	21	1	22
Bakehouses	10	3	13
Ice-cream Premises	55	2	57

Miscellaneous—Action Taken.

No. of complaints investigated during year	..	..	298
Informal Notices served .. ..	..	..	162
Informal notices complied with .. ..	..	..	112
Second or reminder notices sent .. ..	..	..	53
Nuisances abated without service of written notice			2
Statutory notices served .. ..	..	..	39
Statutory notices complied with .. ..	..	..	33
Notices abated on default of owner .. ..	..	..	6
Warning letters sent .. ..	..	..	12
Interviews with owners .. ..	..	..	59
Interviews with builders .. ..	..	..	48

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Derelict Property.

During the year 3 derelict houses have been demolished by the owner.

To date 197 derelict houses have been demolished voluntarily and the majority of the sites thus cleared have been subsequently acquired compulsorily by the Council and redeveloped.

Vermin Infestation.

There has been no variation in the methods used from previous years, i.e. liquid and powder insecticide.

Bug-infested houses dealt with only 5 and all infestations were slight.

The furniture and effects of 256 tenants were inspected and disinfested as necessary prior to rehousing taking place. After due consideration it was decided that the present methods should be continued for the time being.

Infestation of furniture and structural woodwork of Council houses with wood-boring insects is becoming more prevalent and has required major repairs to a number of houses during the year. After consideration it was decided that all timbers used in repair work and certain of the timber and fittings used in new buildings should be treated prior to use.

A total of 206 houses were treated during the year for vermin infestation as below :—

Bug-infested	5	Silver Fish	33
Wood-boring beetles	18	Black beetles	150
Fleas	20		

Places of Public Entertainment.

Continue to be well maintained and repairs and improvements to sanitary accommodation called for last year were effected early in the year.

Atmospheric Pollution.

The methods in use for the measurement of atmospheric pollution remained unchanged during the year. From the first full year's results with the sulphur di-oxide gauge—which can be said to measure the activity of sulphur in the atmosphere—it appears that the extent of this type of pollution compares with similar industrial areas in this locality. Details of observations are included in Table III in the appendix to this report.

When it became known that it was intended to bring the remainder of the Clean Air Act, 1957 into force during 1958—that is those provisions relating to industry, shipping, etc.—contact was made with local undertakings to ascertain their proposals. The response has been gratifying as the present steam-powered tugs are to be replaced with diesel-engined ones. Likewise the present harbour dredger and attendant hoppers, all steam-powered and often the cause of considerable emission of smoke, are to be replaced by a diesel-powered self-contained suction dredger.

Ore Discharge.

It was necessary to lodge a strong complaint with regard to a severe and widespread nuisance from the discharge of iron ore on 2 occasions from the deep water berth.

Late in the year it became known that a further new deep water berth—specific for the discharge of iron ore was projected immediately alongside the main thoroughfare. The provision of this berth is the outcome of proposed steel works extensions inland and the position will have to be very closely watched as apart from the potential dust nuisance there is the aesthetic aspect of a project of this magnitude. The Council expressed their concern and consultation was promised as and when the plans were formulated.

Chemical Works.

The foreboding expressed last year that the two electric precipitators would be insufficient to cope with the output of the new kiln even though it was to be provided with a washtower, were unfortunately, too well-founded as a limited nuisance was experienced under certain weather conditions with the existing plant. Accordingly the provision of a third precipitator was embarked on and should be operative by the time that the new production plant is in full use.

Offensive Trades.

Premises—Fish curing	4	Miscellaneous	2
----------------------	---	---------------	---

1 establishment carrying on the trade of fish-curiers had an annual licence renewed for a further period of twelve months.

Curing is now only carried on at a relatively small scale.

Informal action, indicated below had to be taken on occasions to abate the nuisance :—

Structural defects — 1.

Water Supply.

The supply by Hartlepool Water Company has been adequate in quantity of satisfactory quality throughout the year. The supply from boreholes in West Hartlepool is gradually being replaced by other supplies of less hard water from boreholes at Naisberry just in the rural hinterland. A million-gallon capacity covered reservoir and attendant borehole was brought into operation in July and another bore was completed by the year and should be in operation by the Spring of 1958. As a result of their new works it is anticipated that the boreholes situate in the town will eventually only be operating at very small rates and will in effect be acting more as a standby plant.

Bacteriologically, the supply is Class 1 as routine sampling from various points in the supply area rarely shows any deviation from—probable number coliform bacilli ; McComby 2 days 37°C —0 per 100 ml.

A specimen chemical analysis is indicated below :—

					<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Chlorine as Chlorides ..	..	..	..	..	23.3000
Nitrogen as Nitrates ..	..	..	..	..	0.1346
Ammonia ..	..	..	..	..	0.0017
Albuminoid Ammonia ..	..	..	..	..	0.0009
Oxygen Absorption ..	..	..	..	..	0.0044
Injurious Metals ..	..	..	..	..	None
Total Solid Matter dried @ 100°C. ..	..	..	..	..	106.0000
pH value of Sample ..	..	..	..	..	7.8
					<hr/>
Temporary Hardness ..	26.9	Degrees			
Permanent Hardness ..	35.5	„			
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale ..	..	..			2
Appearance of Sample in 2-foot tube ..	..	..			Not quite bright
Odour when heated to 50°C... ..	..	..			None
					<hr/>

Microscopical Examination.

Satisfactory.

Observations.

The sample is of a high order of organic purity when judged by the results of the chemical analysis and there is no evidence of contamination by matters derived from the surface. While the chlorine as chlorides is somewhat high, this has no hygienic significance and in my opinion the sample represents a supply which is of good and wholesome quality for human consumption.

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

Slum Clearance.

No.	<i>Date Rep-resented</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Number</i>		<i>Local Enquiry</i>	<i>Con-firmed</i>
			<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>		
61	5.9.56	Mary Street Area	64	163	15.1.57	26.3.57
62	11.5.57	Lilly Street Area	87	223	30.4.57	7.8.57

One area of 87 houses was represented during the year and two Ministerial Enquiries held and by the year end all the above orders were confirmed and operative. Some delay however, was occasioned in rehousing owing to the fact of a previous decision not to build for ordinary list cases and allocated a further 50 houses for this class of applicant. Nevertheless the majority of the tenants in the Dock Street area were rehoused by the year end but a lot of difficulty and extra work was thrown on the department in getting urgent repairs carried out to occupied houses in the various areas particularly during the inclement winter weather.

A total of 64 families comprising 195 persons were rehoused during the year but only 2 houses, outstanding for a special reason, from a Clearance Area, were demolished during the year.

Detailed inspections were well advanced at the year end in respect of 2 further areas of 148 houses.

Since the resumption of slum clearance a total of 651 houses in slum clearance areas have been demolished and redevelopment of cleared sites has been considerable as a total of 105 flats, 20 special dwellings and 216 houses have been built on cleared sites.

Individual Unfit Houses.

During the year 7 Closing Orders were made, 13 persons were rehoused from 6 houses subject to a Closing Order ;

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 2 houses, 3 houses demolished and 3 persons rehoused.

3 houses from which tenants had previously been rehoused on a voluntary basis were demolished and a total of 197 houses have thus been demolished, the majority of the sites being acquired by the Council for redevelopment.

Overcrowding.

It is impossible to give an accurate picture of the present overcrowding position without carrying out a fresh survey.

Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(1)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	850
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	1554
(2)(a) Number of dwellinghouses [included under sub-head (1)] above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925-1932	133
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	257
(3) Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	133
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	169
2. Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notices :—	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by local authority or their officers	118

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	20
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	14
(b) by local authority in default of owners ..	2

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	24
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after the service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	20
(b) by local authority in default of owners ..	5

C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made			2
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders			3
(3) Orders determined			—
D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made			7
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit			Nil
E. Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1949 :—			
(1) Closing Orders made under section 3(1)			Nil
(2) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under section 3(2)			Nil
F. Proceedings under section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :—			
Closing Orders made under section 10(1)			—
G. Clearance Areas—			
(1) Total number of unfit houses demolished			2
(2) Total number of other houses demolished			—
(3) Number of persons displaced from unfit houses			181
(4) Number of persons displaced from other houses			14
Housing Acts, 1949—Improvement Grants.			
No. applications submitted separate houses			6
No. applicants rejected			—
Total number houses for which applications granted			12

RENTS ACTS, 1957.

From the operative date of this Act on the first up to the end of the year considerable extra work was thrown on the department in the issue of appropriate forms and explaining the involved procedures of the Act and it would appear that its provisions are to be widely used by both landlord and tenant. After so short a period of time it is a little difficult to say whether the Act is likely to achieve its objective in relation to investment housing but there is every indication that owners were willing to carry out all reasonable repairs as a justifiable condition of obtaining the permitted rent increase.

Formal action under the Act is summarised below :—

No. of applications for certificate of disrepair ..	41
No. of applications refused	—
No. of decisions to issued certificates—	
(a) in respect of some defects	34
(b) in respect of all defects	16
No. of undertakings received from owner	23
No. of undertakings refused	—
No. of certificates of disrepair issued	10

One application from an owner for the cancellation of a certificate was received and to which the tenant objected.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

<i>Type of Establishment and No. at year end</i>	<i>Prov. Shops 73</i>	<i>Fish Shops 13</i>	<i>Bake- houses 13</i>	<i>Catering 25*</i>	<i>Licensed Premises and Clubs 38</i>	<i>Butchers Shops 16</i>	<i>Total 178</i>
No. Registered Sec. 16	1	3	—	—	—	7	11
Defects Remedied—							
Lack Cleanliness ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ Hot Water ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ Soap & Towel ..	4	—	—	—	4	—	8
„ Light/Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
„ Decoration ..	2	—	—	2	5	—	9
„ Clothing/headgear ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
„ First Aid ..	3	—	—	1	1	1	6
Sanitary Accommod.	3	—	—	1	8	—	12
Drainage ..	—	—	—	1	3	—	4
Structural Defects ..	—	—	1	1	3	—	5
Bins ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rubbish ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No sink and/or defective	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
No handbasin &/or defec.	9	—	1	—	4	1	15
No hot water ..	9	—	1	1	5	2	18
No clothing accommod. ..	2	—	—	1	1	—	4
Animals/birds ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Defects ..	33	—	5	8	36	4	86
Total Inspections ..	57	14	22	22	58	22	195

*Private 12; Works 4; School 9.

Little opposition has been experienced to the Food Hygiene Regulations and the routine inspection of all premises subject to the regulations was carried on during the year but, as I pointed out last year, this can only be done spasmodically as pressure of work (slum clearance in particular) permits. 49 written notices were served during the year and 1 statutory notice.

No special propaganda has been carried out.

2 licensed premises were closed on grounds of redundancy and 1 closed voluntarily, all old and unsuitable. 1 new house was completed and 2 started on new estates. Considerable structural alteration to 1 club were put in hand during the year.

Ice Cream premises registered for retail sale are nearly all provision shops.

Premises registered are given below :—

Premises registered for manufacturing ice cream	3
Premises registered for sale of ice cream ..	62
Premises registered and selling ice cream ..	48

and a total of 57 inspections were made for this class of trade.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

26 inspections of meat and other foods were carried out during the year at retail shops and canteens and weight of food condemned amounted to 4 cwts. 7 sts. 2 lbs.

Food condemned :—

Tinned Soup.. ..	7 lbs.
Tinned Milk	9 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	1 st. 8 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	13 lbs.
Tinned Meat.. ..	7 sts. 1 lb.
Meat	2 sts. 2 lbs.
Fish	26 sts. 0 lbs.
Miscellaneous	4 lbs.

Condemned food is destroyed by the Council.

Slaughterhouses and Slaughter of Animals Acts.

All private slaughterhouses were closed in 1940 on public health grounds and following the decontrol of the meat and live stock industry no application was received for a private slaughterhouse.

All slaughtering is still carried out at the Municipal abattoir of an adjoining authority.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT REGULATIONS), 1924.

No formal action was called for under this regulation during the year.

Milk and Dairies' Regulations, 1949-1953.

Persons and premises registered under the above orders at the year-end are as follows :—

Distributors with retail dairy premises in the town	5
Distributors with no retail premises in the town	3
	— 8
Retail purveyors of bottled milk only from shops	46

Two dairymen were warned about displaying names and addresses on vehicles.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS), 1949-53.

The town is included in a specified area for the sale of designated milk.

Licences granted under these orders and in force at the year-end are as follows :—

	<i>Dealer's Licences</i>	<i>Supplementary Licences</i>
Tuberculin Tested	7	3
Pasteurised Milk	17	3
Sterilised Milk	46	3

Both T.T. and Pasteurised milks on sale in the town are each derived from 3 sources and the supply position and the quality was well maintained.

Purity of Milk Supplies—Bacteriological Examination.

T.T. Pasteurised Milk. All 13 samples submitted for examination passed the methylene Blue test as to keeping quality and the Phosphatase test as to efficiency of pasteurising.

Pasteurised Milk. 17 samples were submitted of which all passed the Methylene Blue and the Phosphatase tests.

A representative number of these samples were of school milk.

Sterilised Milk. 2 samples submitted passed the test.

Animal Inoculation for T.B. All 3 samples submitted for examination were negative.

Tuberculin-Tested Milk. Though only 5 samples were taken 3 failed to pass the Methylene Blue test.

The quality of the milk on retail sale can be said to be very satisfactory.

ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment) REGULATIONS, 1949-52.

Of the 3 registered manufacturers only 1 person now manufactures ice cream and that product is a cold mix. All other ice cream on sale is obtained wholesale and prepacked.

Of the 49 samples procured for examination for provisional grading under the regulations 39 or 80% were grade I and 6 or 12% were grade II. Of the 4 unsatisfactory samples graded III and IV, 2 were from the local producer which on investigation proved to be due to lack of attention to sterilising, all subsequent samples being grade I.

The results continue to be very satisfactory.

Nevertheless the results are a very considerable improvement on previous years.

Detailed results are tabulated below :—

	<i>Sample Results</i>			
	<i>Satisfactory</i>		<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	
No. of producers sampled	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
8	39	6	3	1

FACTORIES ACT, 1937-1944.

Little arose during the year that calls for comment.

Most factories now maintain adequate supervision, and more voluntary modernisation and improvements that could not be called for under legislation were carried out.

Details of inspections carried out and defects discovered are indicated in the following table :—

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by P.H.I.).

PREMISES 1	Number on Register 3	Number of		
		Inspec- tions 4	Written Notices 5	Occupiers Prosecuted 6
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	10	6	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	57	64	10	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	6	2	—
TOTAL	79	80	18	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases prosecuted
	Found	rem- edied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding....	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient	4	3	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	12	8	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	2	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	20	14	—	1	—

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949-52.

No formal action had to be taken during the year under the provisions of this Act. No unusual infestations occurred, infestation of houses was largely of a sporadic nature but trouble was experienced on new housing sites on what had been virgin farm land.

Types of infested areas dealt with other than houses are as below :—

Industrial premises ..	6	Schools ..	1
Tips	3	Food Shops ..	2
Allotments	1	Building Sites ..	4
Hospitals	1	Licensed Premises ..	1
		Garages	1

No. of dead rats recovered—poison	418	
—traps	42	Total 460

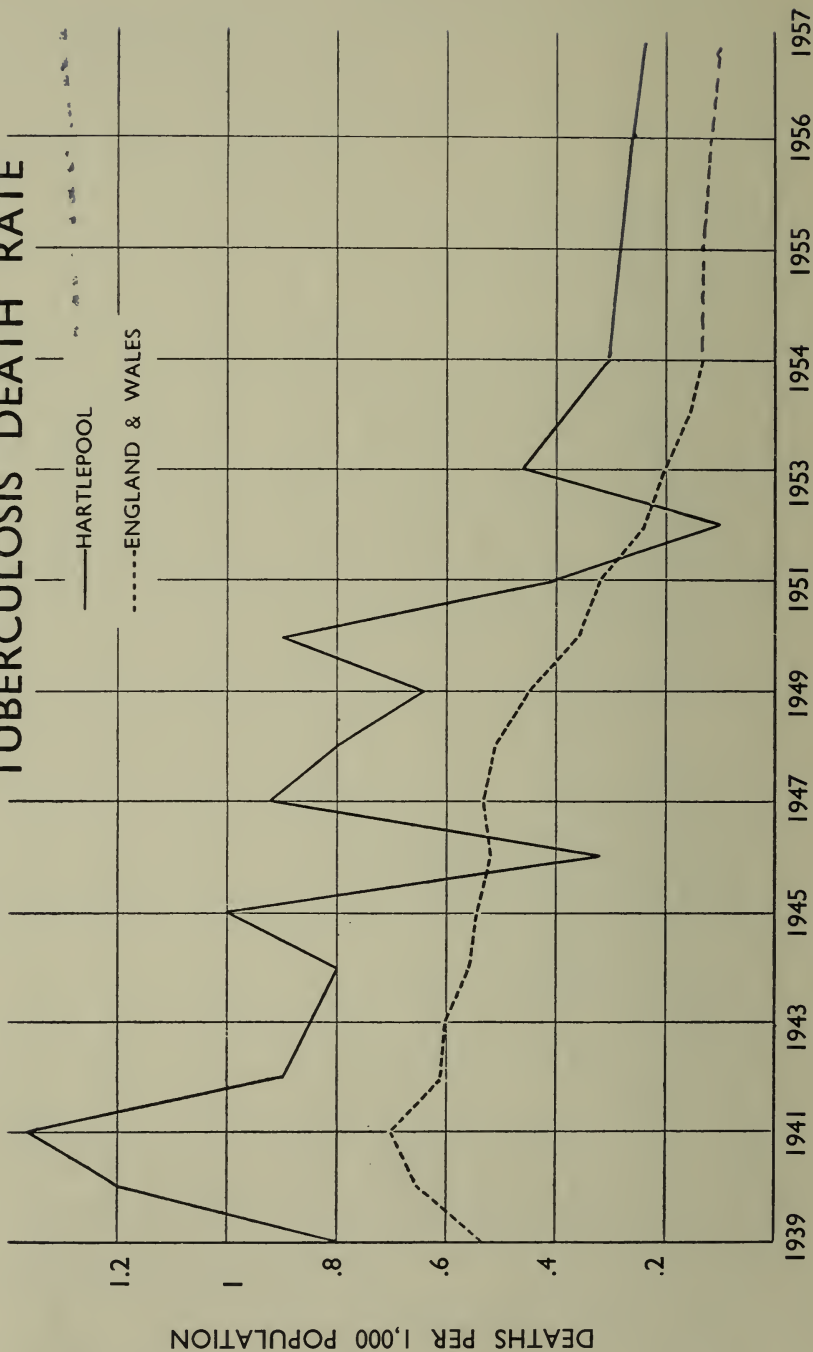
No. of dead mice recovered — 14.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses)	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	Agricultural
I No. of properties in Local Authority's District ..	41	4932	658	5631	5
II No. of properties inspected as a result of :—					
(a) Notification	12	68	8	88	—
(b) Survey under the Act.. ..	4	40	16	60	—
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	3	—	245	248	—
III Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections (to be completed only if figures are readily available)	370	364	122	856	—
IV No. of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by :—					
(a) Rats { Major.. .. .	10	9	3	22	—
{ Minor.. .. .	4	42	8	54	—
(b) Mice { Major.. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
{ Minor.. .. .	1	24	1	26	—
V No. of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sec. IV)	15	73	12	100	—
VI Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments. (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	13	59	12	84	—
VII No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act :—					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
VIII No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
IX Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
X No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	9	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX I

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE

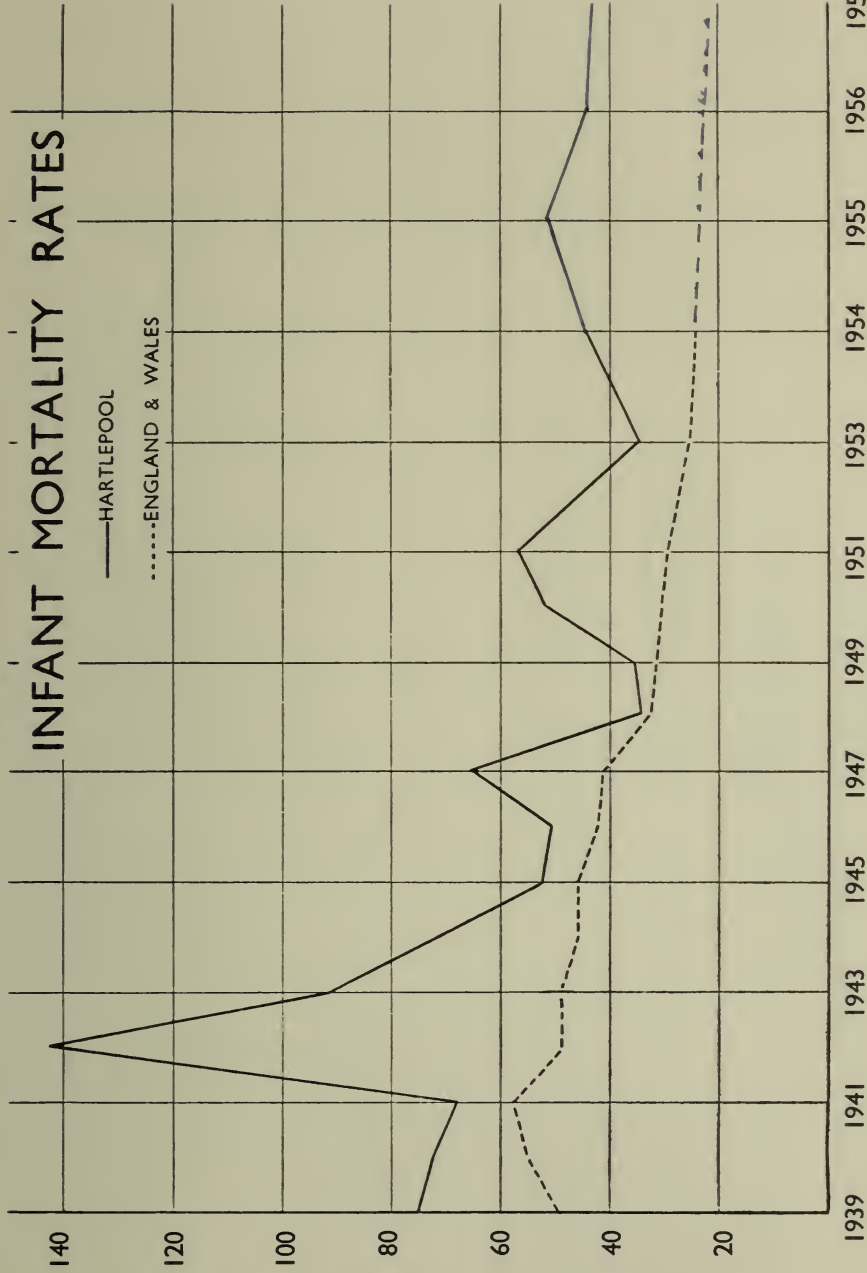


APPENDIX II

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

—HARTLEPOOL
 -----ENGLAND & WALES

INFANT MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS



APPENDIX III. DEPOSIT GAUGES, ANNUAL TOTALS, MONTHLY AND FIVE-YEARLY AVERAGES. Gray Square New Cemetery

Year	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Average 5 years 1957	Average 5 years 1956	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Average 5 years 1957	Average 5 years 1956
Suspended Solids	144.35	146.74	109.74	121.31	122.52	128.93	141.01	80.53	56.07	63.81	84.61	59.03	68.81	76.19
Dissolved Solids	150.42	194.95	195.81	243.64	199.94	196.95	206.34	90.19	100.73	123.48	123.06	99.42	107.57	111.56
TOTAL	294.48	341.30	305.55	364.95	322.46	325.74	347.22	170.72	156.80	187.29	207.67	155.45	175.58	185.96
Monthly Average	24.54	28.44	25.46	30.41	26.87	27.14	28.93	14.22	13.06	15.60	17.30	12.95	14.62	15.49
Rainfall Total	14.35	25.45	15.45	22.28	19.12	19.33	19.19	16.67	25.41	18.22	22.68	21.59	20.91	20.94
Monthly Average	1.19	2.12	1.26	1.86	1.60	1.60	1.61	1.39	2.11	1.52	1.89	1.80	1.74	1.74

WIND DIRECTIONS %	Wind										No Record
	Year	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm	
	1953	5.5	10.2	2.6	4.7	14.8	39.8	5.3	8.4	7.5	
	1954	8.7	10.6	1.2	7.8	12.4	38.0	5.7	20.6	1.7	
	1955	8.9	12.3	4.0	2.5	15.9	27.0	11.5	11.7	2.1	
	1956	9.6	11.8	4.2	5.4	25.2	22.5	11.1	7.2	1.9	
	1957	9.1	11.4	4.2	4.2	30.5	20.4	13.0	7.0	2.4	
Average 5 yrs. to 1957		8.3	11.2	3.2	4.9	19.7	29.5	9.3	8.9	3.1	2.9
5 yrs. to 1956		8.0	11.4	2.8	4.8	14.9	32.8	8.4	10.1	4.5	2.5

